

Maine Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

December 23, 2008

Synopsis

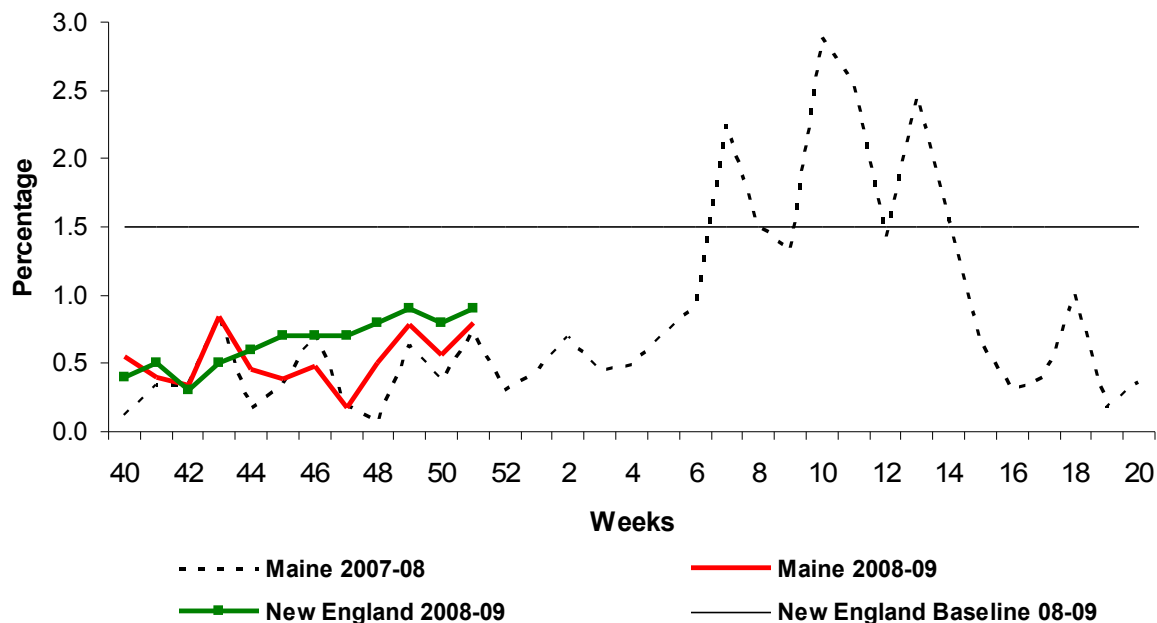
During the week ending December 20th, 2008 (MMWR week 51)*, Maine reported sporadic influenza activity.

Moderate Disease Surveillance

Outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI)

During the week ending December 20th, 2008, 0.8% of outpatient visits reported by seven Maine Sentinel Providers were for influenza-like illness (ILI). ILI is defined as fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}$ F / $\geq 37.8^{\circ}$ C) AND cough or sore throat in the absence of a known cause. In the New England States, 0.9% of outpatient visits were attributed to influenza-like illness during week 49. Maine remains below the New England states average, as well as the New England baseline.

Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness -- Maine, 2007-09



New England is defined as Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

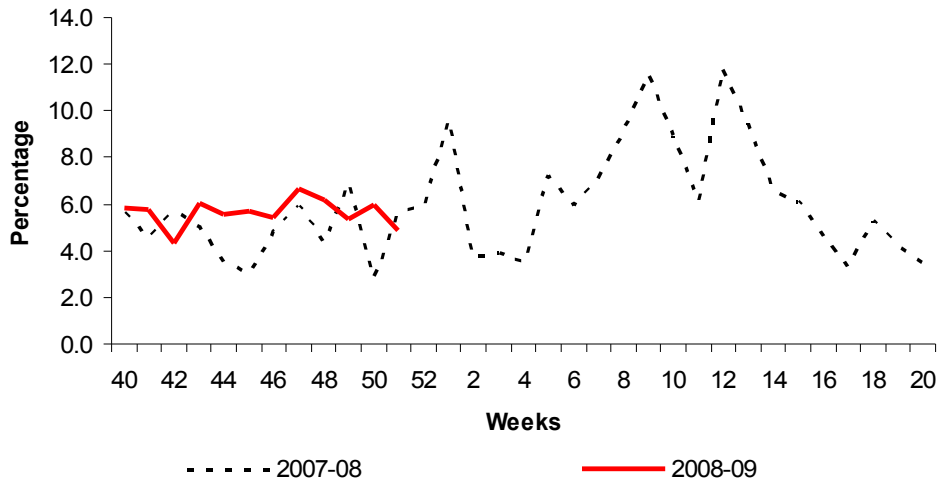
Severe Disease Surveillance

Hospital inpatients

During the week ending December 20th, 2008, 4.9% of hospital admissions reported by three hospitals were attributable to pneumonia or influenza. This is consistent with previous weeks.

* At time of publication, reporting may be incomplete. Numbers presented here may change as more reports are received.

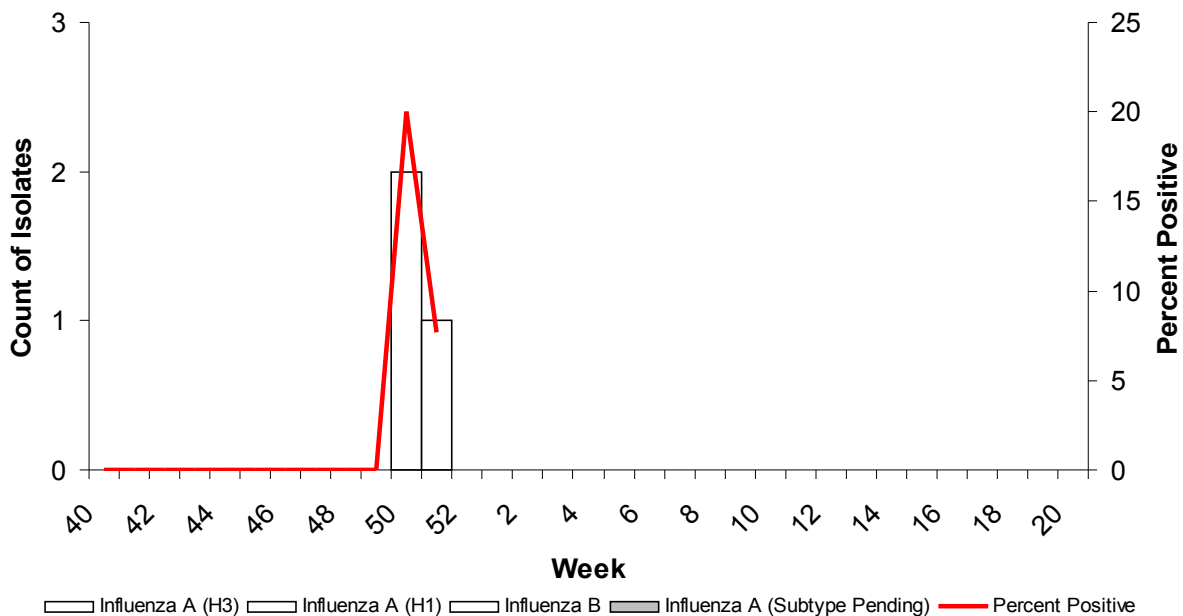
Hospital Admissions Due to Pneumonia or Influenza -- Maine, 2007-09



Laboratory Reporting

During the week ending December 20th, 2008, 13 samples were submitted for testing to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL). One sample (7.7%) tested positive for influenza A (H1) virus. To date, 62 samples have been submitted, three (4.8%) were positive for influenza.

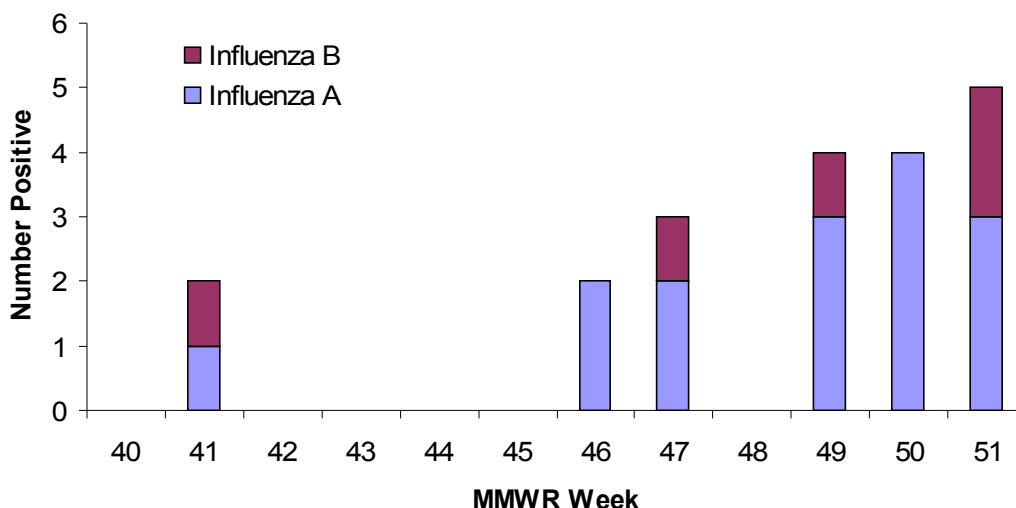
Respiratory Specimens Positive for Influenza from HETL, Maine, 2008-2009



During the week ending December 20th, 2008, 35 samples were submitted for testing to two private reference laboratories, none tested positive for influenza. A combined total of 278 specimens have been submitted for respiratory testing to date. None tested positive for influenza. Two samples were positive for RSV, two samples were positive for parainfluenza 3, one sample was positive for adenovirus, and one sample was positive for enterovirus. To date, ten samples were positive for RSV, four samples were positive for parainfluenza 3, one sample was positive for adenovirus, and one sample was positive for enterovirus.

During the week ending December 20th, 2008, five samples tested positive using rapid testing: three for influenza A, and two for influenza B. A combined total of 20 positive rapid tests have been reported this season. 15 were positive for influenza A, and five were positive for influenza B. Rapid tests are often used in clinical practice and these results contribute to the determination of the state influenza activity code reported to the federal CDC.

Positive Rapid Influenza Tests, Maine, 2008-2009



Outbreaks

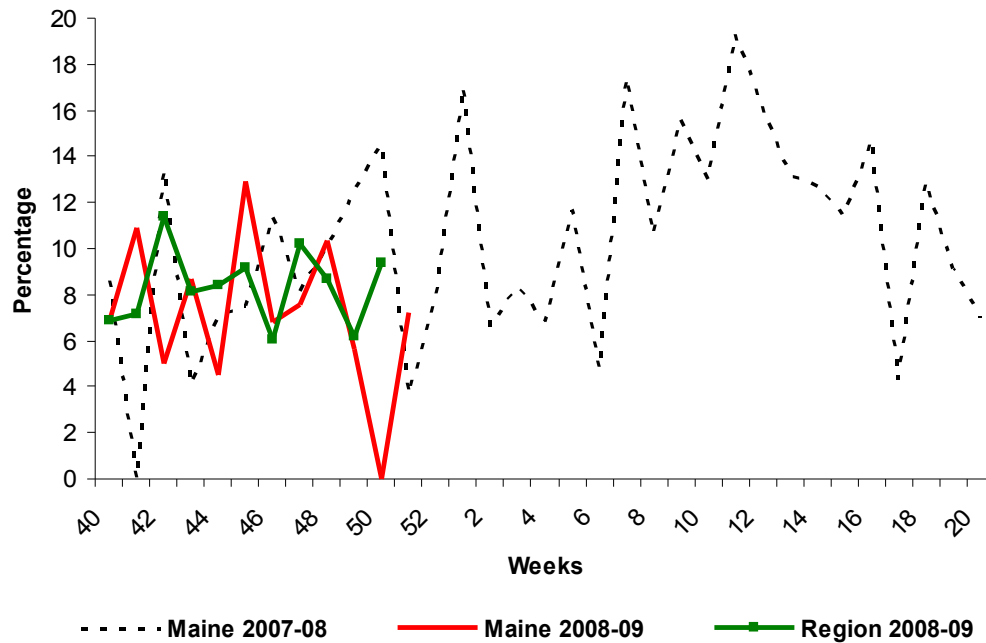
During the week ending December 20th, 2008, no outbreaks of influenza-like illness were reported in Maine. To date, one outbreak of influenza like illness in a long term care facility has been reported.

Fatalities Surveillance

Death Certificates

During the week ending December 20th, 2008, 7.2 % of deaths reported by three city vital records offices were attributable to pneumonia and influenza.

Percentage of Deaths Attributable to Pneumonia and Influenza – Maine, New England and the United States, 2007-09



Pediatric Fatalities

No influenza-associated pediatric deaths in Maine have been reported this season.

National Influenza Activity

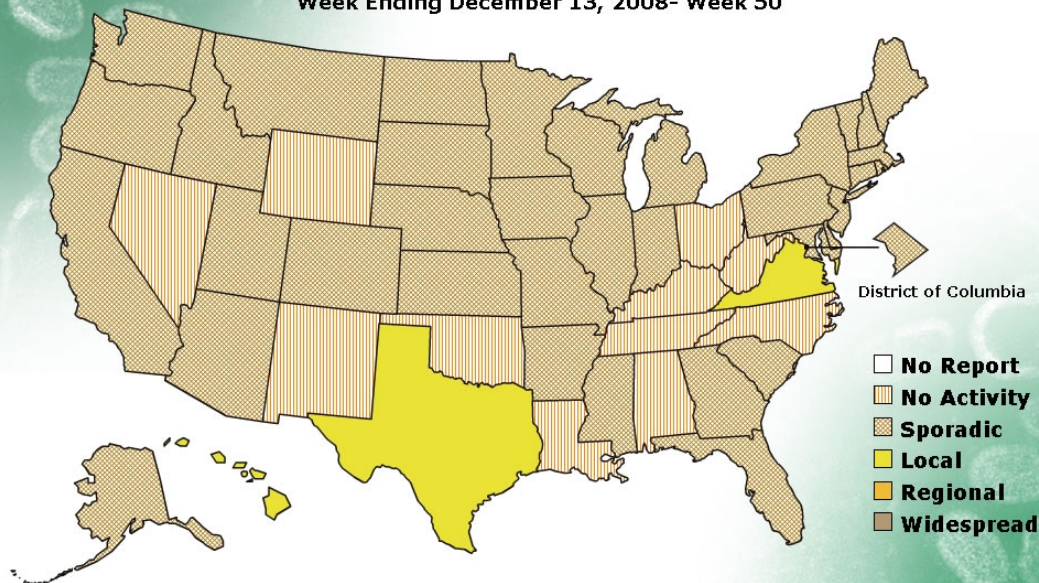
State health departments report the estimated level of influenza activity in their states each week. States report influenza activity as: 1) no activity, 2) sporadic, 3) local, 4) regional, or 5) widespread (definitions of these levels can be found at: www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm). Maine reported sporadic activity for the week ending December 20th (week 51).

FLUVIEW



A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*

Week Ending December 13, 2008- Week 50



*This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.